

REMARKS

After entry of the present amendments, claims 21 through 23 will remain in the application, with claim 21 and 23 presented in independent form. By the present amendment, claims 1, 3, 17, 18, and 20 have been cancelled. Claims 2, 4 through 16, and 19 have been previously cancelled.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102 (b)

Claims 1, 3, 17 through 18, and 20 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by the United States Patent No. 5,987,573 to Hiraka. In response to the Examiner's rejections, the Applicant has cancelled claims 1, 3, 17 through 18, and 20. The Applicant added new claims 21 through 23, with claim 21 and 23 presented in independent form. The Applicant believes that new claims, as presented, overcome the aforementioned Examiner's rejection.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as amended are now in condition for allowance and respectfully requests such allowance. The commissioner is authorized to charge the Deposit Account No. 08-2789, in the name of Howard & Howard Attorneys, P.C., for any fees or credit the account for any overpayments.

Respectfully submitted,

HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.

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Date

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